

The Pocahontas Times.

If thou would'st read a lesson that will keep Thy heart from fainting and thy soul from sleep, Go to the woods and hills.—Longfellow.

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least twice a year. The exact date
of his visit will appear in this
paper.

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RANDOM RECOLLECTIONS.

REVIVAL IN A LOG SCHOOL HOUSE IN THE VALE OF SHENANDOAH.

A Mother's Interest in the Con- version of Her Two Small Children.

Two incidents of recent occur-
rence have superinduced in me a
reminiscent mood of which this
contribution to the Times is the
outcome. One was the licensure
of a young Seminary to preach
the gospel and whose first field
of labor will be Pickets, W. Va.
His father will be remembered
by me as among the first young
men to unite with the church in
Rockingham, Va., after my re-
moval to the Valley of Virginia.
His was one of the first marriages
I was invited to celebrate. He
became a teacher of public schools
and exerted a positive Christian
influence over the pupils and
quite a number professed piety.

He was elected one of the dea-
cons and made a good one, as
deacons then were. It was then
as now matters were of such a
type that nobody was so good but
what there might be room for im-
provement.

At one period there came a
crisis in our church affairs that
seemed threatening of serious
consequences. Two or three
years previously there had been
a season of remarkable ingather-
ing under the evangelistic efforts
of the Rev. C. M. Howard, who
is so well known in Pocahontas
county.

A torpid reaction had set in
and many of the members became
very anxious to have the evange-
list to come again and had me
write to him. He replied and
stated the conditions on which he
would come. When I read the
letter to the session and inquired
if they would guarantee what was
proposed as conditions, they con-
cluded it was beyond their reach,
and so the matter was dropped.
Still there was much discontent
among the membership generally,
and I was very much worried by
inquiry, when is the evangelist
coming again? The feeling seemed
distressingly prevalent that there
would be no use in trying to do
any good without him or some one
else like him.

Mr. Howard had engagements
that would require years to meet
if taken in the order of "first
come, first served."

As a last resort I said,
"Brethren, if you will promise to
work with your pastor with the
zeal and energy you worked with
the evangelist, how would it do
to have a series of continued
meetings before the December
communion?" Among those who
agreed to this was the young dea-
con in question.

The first point selected for the
proposed services was a mission
Sunday-school which had been
held through the spring and sum-
mer in the afternoons by two
young men and three or four
young ladies.

The log school house thus used
was a few miles east of Rawley
Springs, Va., and among the foot
hills of the Shenandoah range.
The settlement was a secluded
one, comprising a dozen or more
families previous to that time,
almost totally deprived of stated
religious advantages.

Their subsistence was mainly
derived from a variety of occupa-
tions—splitting rails, making
shingles, cutting hoop poles, peel-
ing tan bark, picking blackberries,
blackberries and coppering.
The school numbered near fifty
pupils, old and young, and mani-
fest improvement was made in
their studies. I held a few preach-
ing services during the summer.
During the months of October
and November continued services
were held almost nightly for five
weeks without any ministerial
assistance, but I was very effec-
tively aided by the teachers.

About thirty persons of all ages
manifested special interest, six-
teen of whom applied for church
membership.

Comparatively few of the older
people could read and while there
was much singing and expounding
of the Scriptures, but few hymns
were sung and but few portions
of Scripture were taken up.

The oftener a hymn was sung
or a pertinent portion of Scripture
repeated and commented upon the
more interested the people seemed
in the singing and the preaching.
Attendance upon the meetings
in the foothills was with much in-
convenience and some risk of per-
sonal safety at times, especially
cloudy nights. One night I was
about to arrange for sleeping out
in the woods when a colored per-

son, perhaps a 'possum hunter,
incidentally passed near with a
pine torch which enabled me to
find the path from which I had
wandered in the intense darkness.

Immediately after this there
was a series of meetings at the
church for three weeks in Novem-
ber and December which were
interrupted by one of the heaviest
falls of snow that is remembered
to have ever fallen in that vicin-
ity, and brought to a sudden con-
clusion. Thirteen persons were
known to be interested. During
these meetings two excellent ser-
mons were preached by the late
Rev. Samuel W. Watkins.

Five of the interested persons
referred to applied for member-
ship a few weeks afterward at the
Sacramental meeting for which
all these services were prelimi-
nary when Rev. James B. Con-
verse was present and preached
an instructive and forcible sermon.

At the close of these services I
felt refreshed in spirit and body.
In the effort to lead others to
Jesus I reviewed the first principles
of the gospel as patiently and
carefully as if learning them for
the first time myself, and the in-
fluence is marvellous upon one's
own spiritual interests.

The other incident alluded to
as suggestive of this paper on
"Random Recollections" occur-
red on the train between Keister
and Marlinton a few weeks since
while I was on my return home
from Ronceverte.

Among the persons that I met
on the train was a minister who is
chairman of Home Missions of
Lexington Presbytery on his way
to Elkins, where the next day he
was chosen moderator of the Pres-
bytery and then sent as one of the
commissioners of the Presbytery
to the General Assembly at
Mobile, Ala.

A like succession of Presbyter-
ial honors but rarely if ever falls
to the lot of a Presbyter. Lex-
ington Presbytery, was at the
formation of the Southern Assem-
bly one of the largest and most
influential bodies in the denomina-
tion of its kind. It had become
a trite saying: "As goes Lex-
ington Presbytery, so goes the
synod of Virginia and so goes the
Southern Presbyterian Assembly."

As I happened to be a member
of Presbytery at the time modesty
prevents me from expressing the
opinion whether there was any
good reason for such a saying.
One of the first political catch
phrases, I remember is this:
"As goes Pennsylvania, so goes
the Union" and it was called the
Keystone state. For an analogo-
ous reason, Lexington Presby-
tery might be called the Keystone
Presbytery so far as the Southern
Assembly was concerned.

Now to be the moderator, the
chairman of Home Evangeliza-
tion and one of the Presbyterial
commissioners to the General
Assembly all at the same time, of
the Keystone Presbytery impresses
me as something phenomenal
of its kind to say the least.

Now among the memories re-
called by this incidental meeting
on the train I will mention this
for those of my courteous readers
whose hearts may be yearning for
the salvation of their precious
children.

While in charge of the valley
church, already referred to, a
lady of the congregation impress-
ed me by the interest she mani-
fested for the conversion of her
younger children and by it I was
made to feel it a duty to arrange
for special services in her im-
mediate neighborhood as it was too
inconvenient for her to attend
such services at a point so remote
as the church was at the time.

The place selected was a de-
lapidated building originally
designed for a school house and
chapel. At the hour appointed
I came but no audience or prepara-
tion made for evening services.
After waiting awhile seated on a
large rock below the building, I
was just on the point of returning
home some two or three miles
away when a cherry voice called
to me from one of the upper win-
dows to know if that was the
pastor out there in the moonlight.
It was the mother referred to who
had just arrived with her two
children aged eleven and sixteen
years. She was disappointed at
finding the individual she had
employed to put the house in
order had failed in the duty. So
affairs had to be now arranged
by herself in person. This lady
moved in the highest social posi-
tion, her timely and useful minis-
tries had gladdened her pastor's
heart in ways too numerous to
mention. For a time there was
none to work except herself and
the children and the pastor. The
floor was swept the seats dusted
so far as found in place and the
missing benches were looked up
in the search for the lost pulpit
it was found in fragments under

the steps leading to the upper
apartment. A school desk was
improvised to take its place.

In the meantime two or three
others came and with willing
hands helped on with the work in
progress. One of these persons
hastened to a neighboring house
more than a half mile away and
found the mutilated pulpit Bible
and soon had it in place. By the
time arrangements were com-
pleted there were eight or nine
learners present. All were mem-
bers of the church except three
young persons.

The services continued a week
or more and those persons present
at the first service composed the
permanent element of the au-
dience. Sometimes there were a
few more and sometimes less.
At the communion that occurred
soon afterwards, this faithful
mother came before the session,
bringing her two children with
her. They were gladly received
and were the only additions.

"It was a sweetly touching scene
when brother and sister were
publicly received, in the presence
of an overwhelming congregation
and took their places at the ban-
quet of redeeming love. Hun-
dreds of eyes were bright with
joyful tears while singing them:

"O happy day that fixed my
choice,
On thee my Saviour and my God;
Well might this glowing heart
rejoice
And tell its raptures all abroad.

This done—the great transaction's
done;
I am Lord's and he is mine,
He drew me—and I followed on
Charmed to confess the voice di-
vine.

High heaven that heard the sol-
emn vow,
That vow renewed shall daily
hear
Till in life's latest hour I bow
And bless in death abundant
dear."

This was a small meeting at the
dilapidated North Mountain
chapel but where will one find a
larger percentage when material
and results are compared.

After nearly twenty years sepa-
ration it was pleasant to meet a
few weeks since as already men-
tioned with that youth as I re-
membered him and recall the
memories I am now writing for
the readers of the Times.

The sister became the wife of a
minister who stands in the fore-
most ranks of the living sacra-
mental host as one ever ready to
spend and he spent in whatever
duty may be providentially as-
signed him. W. T. P.

How Old Is Ann.

We bought a really decent hat
recently. It is most too good a
hat apparently for our station in
life inasmuch as it looks like a
Panama. A number of people
appeared to think it was a Panama
and in the course of human weak-
ness the value of the hat has
gradually advanced until now the
first cost of it was twenty dollars.
Now a question presents itself in
this light: Suppose a hundred
thousand hats had been bought
and they had all increased in value
and I had felt as much lifted up
over the hundred thousand in the
ratio of one hundred thousand is
to one how much money would I
have and would there be any
place to hold me? Perhaps the
question might naturally arise in
some minds how we would man-
age to pay for the hundred thou-
sand hats, when we had to have
them charged. We've been
bothered by the same question.

Notice.

All persons are hereby notified
not to trespass on my lands lying
on the east side of the public road
leading from Huntersville to
Dunmore by cutting any corner
tree or line tree, nor by cutting
any timber on the east side of
said road except what is included
within the boundary line of timber
sold to Orwig and Kryder by me;
nor by throwing down and leav-
ing down my fences on said land
on the east side of said road.

And all persons are hereby
further notified not to trespass on
my land lying on the west side of
said road by cutting any timber
whatever within the boundary
line named in the deed from John
Carpenter to William McGlaughlin,
in any way except on the road lead-
ing around the hill down Thomas
Creek; nor by throwing down nor
burning my fences and leaving
open gates.

The penalty of the law in such
cases made and provided will be
enforced against any person vio-
lating this notice,
Henry McGlaughlin.

POCAHONTAS OUT FROM THE WOODS.

Wm. H. Sawyers in His Indepen- dent Herald Admires

The Plan Suggested by The Messen- ger To Elect a Few Republican Justices and Constables. If Pocahontas Would be Prosperous and Happy.

Your fellow man is an "amus-
in' cuss." In fact he is nothing
if not amusing. Just now the
Marlinton Messenger is advising
the people of Pocahontas to vote
the Republican ticket straight as
it will be an "eternal announce-
ment that Pocahontas county is
out from the woods." Our good
brother of the Messenger further
says that "the day when men,
blinded by a few leaders and a
few 'hurras' go to the polls and
vote regardless of interest and
regardless of men has passed in
this country." Now this is the
gist, the logic and the conclusion
of the Messenger's argument:
The Republicans of Pocahontas
are to nominate a few fellows
who drink coffee from a saucer
and have a theory as to the me-
dical properties of Indian turnip
and rattlesnake. They know that
a rail fence ought never to be
built in the "dark of the moon"
and that if you kill a blacksnake
and leave him belly upwards it
will surely bring rain. They
know that the Pope of Rome is in
league with the devil and that the
Republican party is right in every
particular and that the Democrats
are wrong and always were
wrong. They know that there is
something wrong with the way
things are run in Pocahontas
county and that they will never
be run right until they run 'em.
They know positively that their
religious belief is solidly backed
up by scripture and that all
dudes are doomed to eternal
damnation. They know they are
right and everybody else is wrong.
They know that they all vote
from principle and that the Dem-
ocrats all vote through spite.
And the editor of the Messenger
knows that the day when men
vote regardless of interest and
regardless of men has passed.
Pocahontas county is a going to
get out "from the woods." Let
the people rise up, even from
Beaver Lick to Buckeye, and
from Lobelia unto Frost and vote
to fling off the shackles of bond-
age and the gloom of ignorance.
Let 'em get Pocahontas county
out from the woods by electing
justices of the peace who know
just how much tariff we ought to
have and constables who under-
stand the financial question. Let
Pocahontas also elect a sheriff up
to date. See that his breeches
do not bag at the knees like Dem-
ocratic breeches, and that he
wears a fried shirt with the prop-
er amount of linsey woolsey in
its narrative. See also that the
member of the Pocahontas county
court chews his tobacco from the
native twist, and that he does not
chew the flat or store tobacco like
a Democrat who believes in free
trade. Then as Pocahontas
emerges from the woods let her
legislator be a hummer. Let him
be a man with empires in his
brain. Let him be a man that has
"sucked some" with old
Socrates and ripped some with
old Euripides. Let him be a
man in wisdom's various arts re-
nowned, and one who has had
some experience in legislative
matters—say has kept the minutes
of a Sunday School. Then let
Pocahontas rise up and walk
right out from the woods and
stand not on the order of her
going.

Pocahontas has been run by
old fogies long enough and men
who have waxed fat and rich by
grinding down the people in su-
perstition and ignorance. Let all
the Democrats scratch the ticket
and all the Republicans vote her
straight. Damn the Democrat
who will not scratch his ticket
and damn the Republican who
will. This is Mr. Kramer's idea
and Mr. Kramer is right because
Mr. Kramer knows things. Yes
that will be a great step for Poca-
hontas, that getting out "from
the woods business." Just elect
a parcel of squires of the right
stripe and some constables of the
proper political religion if you
want to see ignorance—hunt the
Top of Alleghany, and gingery
greys moonbackism seek the
sweets of Traveler's Repose.

Yes let Pocahontas county
walk right out from the woods if
she has to walk out in her sark
night shirt or chemise. How do
you expect little children to learn
the Lord's prayer or the youth
the rudiments of arithmetic with

the wise men of Pocahontas coun-
ty all out of office? Split Rock
and Clover Lick look like they
might emerge a little but blind
ignorance seems settled at Green
Bank and Cass. By all means
let Pocahontas county elect men
up to date and fellows full of the
spirit of the age. Let the woods
all stay in Pocahontas county but
let Pocahontas county get out of
the woods.

As Pocahontas marches from
the woods on her way to eternal
prosperity and glory having
purged herself of poison oak and
combed the wood ticks out of her
whiskers let her elect some big
man to any office he desires to
run for—some fellow say about
six feet in the girth, five feet and
six inches tall and whose weight
is the happy medium 'twixt
Teddy the Terrible and a mas-
tadon, and one who is full of the
sunshine of gladness. In other
words we nominate Brother Kramer,
our good natured, lank lean
and skinny brother of the Marl-
inton Messenger, for any blamed
office that is big enough for him
to sit down in.

Transfers for May.

Wirt C. Ward and Eliza Hunt
to Geo. W. Pfifer and others
326 acres near Durbin.

John G. Lake and John G. Lake,
trustees to W. Va. Pulp and Pa-
per Co. 22000 acres in Randolph
and Pocahontas counties.

William A. Wilson and wife to
Charles W. Wilson. 10 acres on
Brushy Lick Run.

George G. Clendenen to Lonella
Clendenen lot in town of Seebert.
J. W. Danlap to H. A. Sear all
merchandise timber, except chest-
nut, on 5 acres near Beard.

Pocahontas Tannery Co. to E.
J. Hoover and others 3013 acres
on west fork of Greenbrier river.

W. P. Gum and wife to Uriah
Bird house and lot in Marlinton.

Ann S. Clark and others to Jen-
nie R. Sharp, lot no. 6 in Hillsboro.

Samuel C. Baxter and wife to H.
A. Sear timber on 321 acres on
headwaters of Dry Fork of Stony
Creek.

John T. McGraw to Campbell
Lumber Co. a tract of land known
as the Levi Gay farm and a tract
known as the John Adam McNeil
farm, containing 1061 acres, the
former lying near the town of Mar-
linton and the latter on the head-
waters of Laurel Creek.

John H. Sydenstricker and wife
to John D. Payne lot in town of
Seebert.

Joe Fox to Rice Graves 17½ acres
in Edray District.

W. R. Hamrick and wife to the
Campbell Lumber Co. timber on
tract of land on Stony creek.

C. C. Dakers to Latimer Take
61½ acres on Middle Mountain
known as the "Conau Kurb."

Tazwell Fitzwater to William F.
Simmons 40 acres on west side of
Alleghany Mountain.

John T. McGraw to Caroline R.
Sutton and Anna L. Eades two
lots in town of Durbin.

Samuel B. Woods to F. S. Wise
and others timber on 1000 acres on
headwaters of Greenbrier river.

H. B. Hannah and wife to Mag-
gie Ramsey 267 acres on waters of
Oldhams run in Levels district.

D. A. Renick to C. E. Beard 47½
acres in Levels district.

Howard M. Harrison and wife to
Edward Whalen and L. L. Ken-
yon 300 acres on west branch of
Greenbrier river.

Madora F. Tracy to Snowden T.
Tracy 76 acres on Brushy Lick
Run.

Margaret Ramsey and others to
E. J. Silva 152½ acres on Oldham
run.

Geo. W. Kerr and wife to L. L.
Ervine 135 acres on Alleghany
Mountain.

Geo. G. Clendenen and wife to
Geo. Sizemore 1 acre below mouth
of Stamping creek.

John J. Spencer to Wm. H.
Barkley and wife 48 acres on head-
waters of Deer Creek.

L. J. Williams, special comis-
and others to H. W. McCoy 50
acres near Hillsboro.

G. W. Alderman and wife to
John T. McGraw 550 acres on
waters of Beaver creek.

Clover Creek Cattle Co. to A.
M. McGlaughlin 608 acres on Elk
Mountain.

John T. McGraw to J. D. Wil-
moth lot in Durbin.

John Wagh and wife to Stella
Landis 15 acres on Indian Draft.

John A. Belcher and others to
Richard Paul for their interest in
132 acres on Chicken House run
in Huntersville district.

John A. Belcher and wife to
Richard Paul interest in tract of
171 acres on Chicken House run.

Wm. Belcher and wife to Rich-
ard Paul interest in 171 acres on
Chicken House run.

GOLDEN EAGLE.

HOW IT DIFFERS FROM THE OTHER EAGLES.

Traditions of the Eagles as Num- erous as Snakes.

The latest office ornament (and
about the only ornament our office
has other than the editor and his
dog) is a finely mounted golden
eagle—one of the many killed by
Pat Gay in protecting his large
flock of lambs from the depreda-
tions of these birds of prey. This
specimen, while not one of un-
usual size is full grown and a
particularly pretty one. The
smoothness of the talons and beak
proves it a comparatively young
bird.

There are two members of the
eagle family indigenous to Amer-
ica, the golden or war eagle and
the bald eagle. The latter is the
national emblem of the United
States. While the first is still
frequently found in this part of
the Alleghany range the bald
eagle is well nigh, if not wholly
extinct. The bald eagle grows to
an immense size, even larger than
the war eagle, sometimes attain-
ing a ten foot spread of wing. In
the adult the head and tail are
white. Their feet also differ from
the golden eagle's whose legs are
feathered to the toes, while the
bald eagle's shank is bare.

We were once told by an old
hunter that the passing of the
wild turkey sealed the fate of the
bald eagle, as the turkey consti-
tuted the main means of support
of this, the king of birds. He
paid little attention to lambs, but
would carry off a goose whenever
the occasion presented itself.
There is a popular belief, whether
fallacious or otherwise we are not
prepared to say, that the bald
eagle will not touch carrion, or in
fact anything that he himself has
not killed, but the fact remains
that the raven, the golden eagle
and other birds of prey that affect
a less strenuous dieting system
have held their own while the
imperial bald eagle has gone
the trail of the Indian, buffalo and
all.

We merely pause to ask the
question, is it not better to accom-
modate oneself to existing circum-
stances and fill your belly with
hunks than to voice your empty
complaint to the east wind and
eventually vanish in this air?

On the other hand the golden
eagle will not suffer privations for
the sake of principle so long as
there is a flock of sheep on the
range. If he can't conveniently
kill a lamb, the carcass left by a
dog or bear, or a sheep that has
succumbed the rigors of the
weather or ravages of disease will
be utilized in filling an aching
void.

With all our traditions of
witches, hoop snakes, people
charmed by snakes, horned toads,
children carried off and covered
up by panthers, we cannot recall
a single instance where we have
heard of a child being carried
away by an eagle in the early
development of our mountain
land.

While we have no tale of an
Alleghany baby being carried off
by an eagle to equal the piece in
the old readers about the child of
the Alps which was carried to a
mountainerie by one of these
birds of prey and tenderly cared
for and nourished in the nest
with the young eagles until res-
cued by his grief stricken friends,
yet we have a tradition of an
eagle on Elk which had attained
an immense size. One day this
bird, after a full meal of mutton,
alighted upon the back of an
undersized yearling steer and
attempted to carry it off, presum-
ably with the intention of adopt-
ing it. What really was the in-
tention of the bird in carrying off
the animal is left for each reader
to figure out for himself. We
merely advanced the idea of adop-
tion as in accordance with the
story of the eagle of the Alpine
heights and the Swiss child. Be-
sides, it is no more improbable
than the tale of the hoop snake,
which, according to well high-for-
gotten lore, would wait until the
pioneer children had gotten a
proper distance down the hill and
then carefully place his tail in his
mouth after the matter of a con-
noisseur taking a chew of tobacco,
and, getting himself in shape,
with a hist merrily roll himself
down the incline to breed death
and destruction to any of the
party unlucky enough to be in
his path. The children seeing
the impending peril would take
refuge behind an immense oak.
The snake by this time blind with
the fury of its rage would hurl
itself against the tree, the horn
on its tail penetrating well through
the bark, and being unable to
withdraw its stinger would meet
its death at the hand of the
children. So virulent is the
poison that before sundown the
leaves of the oak tree have begun
to wither.

SLOT MACHINES.

Supreme Court Holds Them to Gambling Devices.

Last Saturday the supreme
court of this state in the case of
the State v. Gaughan held that
the slot machines as played as a
game of chance are gambling
devices and come within the priv-
ileges of and are prohibited by Sec.
1 Chapter 151 of the Code.

There has been a long fight on
this evil but it is now settled
forever and a day unless the slot
machine men can get favorable
legislation which is not considered
possible.

The machines themselves in
this state represent probably
\$200,000 invested. These will
be for sale cheap in some com-
munities not so straight laced as
ours.

It is not to be presumed that
any of them will continue in oper-
ation in this State for the least
penalty is six months in jail.

It is not to be presumed either
that there will be any prosecu-
tions for past offenses, for all who
invested in the machines supposed